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Message Text

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63
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 AF-06 SAM-01 SIL-01 LAB-04

TRSE-00 /106 W
---------- 034627
R 161502Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1241
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USIA WASHDC
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
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DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

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OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, US, VN, XH
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MARCH 16

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS HIGHLIGHTS:

--COVERAGE OF THE U.S. IS STRANGELY BRIEF--A TOTAL OF ONE ITEM ON U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT;
--TASS REACTS WITH AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT TO SADAT'S DECISION TO END FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH THE SOVIET UNION (SEPTEL);
--KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS THE RETURN OF AN EX-RFE EMPLOYEE TO BULGARIA;
--SOMALIA'S SIAD CALLS ON GRECHKO (SEPTEL);
--THE PRESS CONTINUES ITS CAMPAIGN ON PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, WITH TODAY'S FEATURE ZHIVKOV ADVOCATING THAT EVERYONE SING THE INTERNATIONALE TO THE RIGHT MELODY WITH THE RIGHT WORDS;
--PRAVDA REPORTS SAUVANGARGUES STATEMENT PROMISING INDEPENDENCE TO TFAI (SEPTEL);
--THE U.S. AND THE SECRETARY DO RATE MENTION--HIGHLY UNFAVORABLE--IN A PRAVDA REPRINT OF A GRANMA EDITORIAL ON CHINESE INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AND CHILE;
--KRASNAYA ZVEZDA LENDS MORAL SUPPORT TO THE VIETNAMESE CLAIM TO THE SPRATLEY AND PARACEL ISLANDS;
--AND PRAVDA REPORTS A LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE ON COMBATING COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. COVERAGE OF U.S. IS STRANGELY BRIEF WITH ONLY ONE STANDARD POLEMIC IN IZVESTIYA ON U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT. WE CANNOT REMEMBER LAST TIME U.S. RECEIVED SO LITTLE ATTENTION IN THE PRESS. AS NOTED IN OTHER ITEMS BELOW,
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U.S. POLICIES ARE MENTIONED--UNFAVORABLY--IN REPORTING ON EVENTS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

3. RADIO FREE EUROPE. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (KZ) REPORTS THAT A CERTAIN KHRISTOV HAS RETURNED TO BULGARIA AFTER HAVING BEEN OCCUPIED THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS WITH "EXPOSING SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY OF THE U.S.'S CIA, THE RADIOTAION FREE EUROPE, AND HOSTILE IMMIGRANT GROUPS." COMMENT. WE

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ASSUME THAT, AS SURMISED IN SOFIA'S 0540, KHRISTOV MAY
BLOSSOM INTO A SECOND MINARIK.

4. PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM. THE MEDIA CAMPAIGN ON
P.I. CONTINUES. PRAVDA CARRIES EXCERPTS FROM A ZHIVKOV SPEECH
IN SOFIA ON THE GENERAL THEME OF FIDELITY TO THE USSR.
ZHIVKOV GOES TO USUAL EXTREMES IN PRAISE FOR THE CPSU,
AND SAYS THAT AT CPSU CONGRESS HE EXPRESSED BULGARIAN RELATIONSHIP
TO THE "ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN DEVELOPING IN RECENT
TIMES." ZHIVKOV, WAXING POETIC, SAYS THAT BULGARIAN
COMMUNISTS HAVE ALWAYS "SUNG THE GREAT HYMN OF THE
REVOLUTION, THE INTERNATIONALE, TO THE ONLY RIGHT MELODY
WITH THE ONLY RIGHT WORDS. AND THEREFORE WE DO NOT LIKE
CERTAIN MODERNIZATIONS WHICH TURN IT INTO VULGAR POP
MUSIC." HONECKER DOES NOT ADDRESS P.I. DIRECTLY, BUT
ASSERTS THAT "ETERNAL AND INDESTRUCTIBLE TIES" TO THE
USSR ASSURES THE GDR'S FURTHER DEVELOPMENT. HUSAK CALLS
THE CPSU A "RICH SOURCE OF EXPERIENCE AND INSPIRATION."
PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES A FURTHER PIECE IN CURRENT "PUBLICIST"
SERIES ON P.I., THIS ONE BY A GKP PRESIDIUM MEMBER, KURT
FRITSCH. FRITSCH ASSERTS THAT THE GKP IS CARRYING ON A
"DECISIVE STRUGGLE AGAINST ALL FORMS OF ANTI-COMMUNISM
AND ANTI-SOVIETISM AND ALWAYS REGARDS ITS RELATIONSHIPS
TO THE CPSU AND THE SOVIET UNION AS THE MOST IMPORTANT
CRITERION OF P.I."

5. CHINA/ANGOLA/CUBA. PRAVDA REPLAYS A GRANMA EDITORIAL,
SEEMINGLY IN ITS ENTIRETY, ACCUSING CHINA OF JOINING
IN THE "ANTI-CUBAN CAMPAIGN OF U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER."
EDITORIAL IS AN UNREMARKABLE POLEMIC
NOTED HERE ONLY BECAUSE IN ADDITION TO UNFAVORABLE MENTION
OF SECRETARY ABOVE, U.S. IS ACCUSED OF "HAVING LIED TO
JUSTIFY ITS INTERVENTION AND ITS CRIMES IN VIETNAM," AND
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ALSO SAYS U.S. AND CHINA ARE SUPPORTING CHILEAN JUNTA
IN ORDER THAT "MURDER AND PERSECUTION OF COMMUNISTS (AND)
SOCIALISTS...WILL CONTINUE IN THE COUNTRY."

6. VIETNAM. A TASS ITEM IN KZ REPORTS THAT IN HANOI MAIN
SQUARE A MAP OF UNIFIED VIETNAM IS ON DISPLAY SHOWING THE
NEW ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISIONS OF THE COUNTRY--35
PROVINCES AND THE THREE MAIN CITIES OF HANOI, HAIPHONG
AND SAIGON. INCLUDED IN VIETNAMESE TERRITORY, THE
ARTICLE POINTS OUT, ARE THE SPRATLEY AND PARACEL
ISLANDS. ARTICLE FURTHER QUOTES SAIGON NEWSPAPER
EMPHASIZING THAT THE ISLANDS ARE "A SACRED PART" OF
VIETNAM. COMMENT. THIS IS A SUBTLE REJOINDER TO REPORTS
THAT A NEWLY-PUBLISHED CHINESE MAP CONTINUES TO SHOW
THE PARACELS AS CHINESE TERRITORY. END COMMENT.

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7. LAOS. A TASS REPORT IN PRAVDA SAYS THAT THE
LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER KAYSONE'S CHAIRMANSHIP HAS HELD
SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS "COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS
SUPPORTED BY REACTIONARY CIRCLES IN THAILAND AND THE
CIA AGENCY IN LAOS" WHICH ARE CARRYING OUT A SUBVERSIVE
CAMPAIGN. KAYSONE VISIT TO PEKING HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED
(YET) IN SOVIET MEDI
WE FOLLOW.RSTOESSEL

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